

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/483,883

Examiner

Shawn S. An

Applicant(s)

ONO ET AL.

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/30/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13,14,16,19-26 and 28-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

I. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

A) Please amend claims 27-28 as follows:

27. Canceled

28. (Currently Amended) An endoscope comprising:

an elongated insert section;

a solid state image pick up device for picking up an image, and the solid-state image pickup device being provided to an end portion of the insert section;

a general-purpose video processing circuit including a drive signal generating section for generating a drive signal for driving the solid-state image pickup device, and a video signal processing section for producing a standard video signal in response to an output signal outputted from the solid-state image pickup device;

an adjusting circuit including a timing adjusting section for performing timing adjustment of the drive signal generated by the drive signal generating section such that the output signal to be inputted to the general-purpose video processing circuit has a correct timing, and a signal processing adjusting section for adjusting signal processing with respect to the video signal processing section; and

a video signal output connector for outputting the standard video signal outputted from the general-purpose video signal processing circuit to an external display unit;

wherein the general-purpose video signal processing circuit is mounted on a first common board along with a first microcomputer that performs operation setting of the general-purpose video signal processing circuit, the adjusting circuit is mounted on a second common board along with a second microcomputer for controlling the adjusting circuit, and the first microcomputer is connected to the second microcomputer through an interface.

REMARKS:

Claims 27-28 have been amended as discussed above, as authorized by Applicant's attorney, Max Moskowitz on Dec. 12, 2007.

II. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Shawn S. An* whose telephone number is 571-272-7324.



SHAWN AN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

12/13/07

REASONS for ALLOWANCE

Request for Continued Examination

1. The request filed on 11/30/07 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 09/483,883 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

Response to Amendment

2. As per Applicant's instructions as filed on 11/30/07, claim 13 has been amended, and claims 1-12, 15, 17-18, and 28 have been canceled.

Allowance of Subject Matter

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Claims 13-14, 16, 19-26, and 28-30 are allowed.

Claims 13 and 28 as amended (including Examiner's Amendment) are allowed as having incorporated the allowable subject matter (novel features) as discussed in the last Office action as filed on 7/31/07.

The prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious the novel features as discussed in the allowable subject matter section of the last Office action.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to *Shawn S. An* whose telephone number is 571-272-7324.

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5. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SHAWN AN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

12/13/07